2/21/84
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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
1920 L Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036
(202) 835-9555

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, February 16, 1984 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended February 11 totaled an estimated 17.5 billion ton-miles, 14.1 percent above the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first six weeks of 1984 was an estimated 99.1 billion ton-miles, 10.6 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended February 11 totaled 395,082 cars, 13.4 percent above 1983, but 0.5 percent lower than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 24.2 percent in the East, 6.2 percent in the South and 11.3 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1983, 18 of the 21 commodity groups were up. Motor vehicles and equipment loadings were up 5,488 cars, or 35.1 percent; metallic ores were up 3,430 cars, or 33.9 percent; and coal loadings increased by 16,934 cars, or 17.7 percent. Twelve of the 21 groups were down from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended February 4 totaled 50,502 cars, up 19.6 percent from the corresponding week of 1983, and 89,026 trailers and/or containers, 22.8 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first five weeks of the year was 233,140 cars, 18.8 percent higher than last year, and 408,561 trailers and/or containers, up 22.1 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 2/11/84:

| | Loadings in Week ended February 11, 1984 | | Change from Corresponding Week 1983 | | | Change from Preceding Week | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cars | | Cars | Percent | | Cars | Percent |
| Grain | 29,523 | I | 1,649 | 5.9 | D | 2,903 | 9.0 |
| Other farm products | 5,186 | I | 1,561 | 43.1 | I | 307 | 6.3 |
| Metallic ores | 13,558 | I | 3,430 | 33.9 | I | 1,826 | 15.6 |
| Coal | 112,822 | I | 16,934 | 17.7 | I | 468 | 0.4 |
| Crushed stone, gravel and sand | 8,439 | I | 1,377 | 19.5 | D | 214 | 2.5 |
| Nonmetallic minerals | 12,220 | I | 1,934 | 18.8 | D | 584 | 4.6 |
| Grain mill products | 12,048 | D | 3 | 0.0 | I | 66 | 0.6 |
| Food and kindred products | 10,825 | D | 2,566 | 19.2 | D | 618 | 5.4 |
| Primary forest products | 14,088 | I | 659 | 4.9 | D | 679 | 4.6 |
| Lumber and wood products except furniture | 7,679 | I | 727 | 10.5 | D | 17 | 0.2 |
| Pulp, paper and allied products | 15,233 | D | 177 | 1.1 | D | 2 | 0.0 |
| Chemicals and allied products | 26,239 | I | 2,726 | 11.6 | I | 279 | 1.1 |
| Petroleum products | 5,236 | I | 804 | 18.1 | I | 133 | 2.6 |
| Stone, clay and glass products | 10,150 | I | 1,524 | 17.7 | D | 311 | 3.0 |
| Coke | 5,059 | I | 638 | 14.4 | I | 273 | 5.7 |
| Metals and products | 10,009 | I | 839 | 9.1 | D | 507 | 4.8 |
| Motor vehicles and equipment | 21,135 | I | 5,488 | 35.1 | I | 639 | 3.1 |
| Waste and scrap materials | 10,653 | I | 3,017 | 39.5 | I | 246 | 2.4 |
| Forwarder and shipper association traffic | 10,401 | I | 845 | 8.8 | D | 143 | 1.4 |
| All other carloads | 54,295 | I | 5,145 | 10.5 | D | 359 | 0.7 |
| LCL traffic | 284 | I | 71 | 33.3 | D | 33 | 10.4 |
| Total Cars Loaded | 395,082 | I | 46,622 | 13.4 | D | 2,133 | 0.5 |
| Corresponding week of 1983 | 348,460 | | | | | | |

| | 1984 | 1983 | % Change |
|---|---|---|---|
| Total Cars Loaded (6 weeks) | 2,229,792 | 2,022,838 | I 10.2 |
| Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions): | | | |
| 5 weeks ended February 4 | 81.6 | 74.2 | I 9.9 |
| Week ended February 11 | 17.5 | 15.4 | I 14.1 |
| 6 weeks cumulative | 99.1 | 89.6 | I 10.6 |

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